

SQUAW VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

A quick summary of our accomplishments and activities during 2018:

- We responded to 555 emergency calls, 82 calls less than 2017.
- Our staff responded to 303 medical emergency calls - 55% of our overall call volume.
 - ❖ We continue to participate in a region-wide prehospital care-provider group involving all of the area fire departments as well as the Tahoe Forest Hospital emergency department staff, Truckee-Tahoe Medical Group, Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows Ski Patrol and our local air ambulance providers. This group meets periodically to review specific calls and to collaborate in an effort to improve pre-hospital care and coordination throughout the area.
 - ❖ The working relationship between our personnel and the physicians who operate Truckee-Tahoe Medical Group is similarly mutually respectful, cooperative and complementary. TTMG's physicians are increasingly comfortable allowing our paramedics to handle cases that will be transferred to Tahoe Forest Hospital or Renown's trauma center.
- Our staff provided an unprecedented amount of service to other communities as part of California Office of Emergency Services strike teams at eight different incidents/complexes during a very busy fire season. Our crews and apparatus spent 70 days on fire lines across California, earning over \$400,000 for the District.
- SVFD also has a few members involved in the Truckee Tahoe Regional Technical Rescue Team that has proven to be a very valuable resource for our entire region. Our members have been involved in some very unusual, often complicated technical rescues.
- Chief Riley will continue to provide assistance to the State of California Office of Emergency Services as an alternate Operational Area Coordinator for the Lake Tahoe Basin Operational Area (XTB) as part Cal OES Region IV.
- The Fire Department staff continues to provide a very high level of service in a number of non-emergency services:
 - ❖ Commercial occupancy inspections are provided to 100% of businesses annually and are followed up with repeat inspections until any problems found are corrected.
 - ❖ Our defensible space program continues to be - far and away - the most thorough and comprehensive of any fire department in the region. See Captain DeDeo's Prevention Report in the following pages.
 - ❖ We continued to provide Community CPR classes as well as delivering CPR and First Aid training to a number of local businesses including Plumpjack/Squaw Valley Inn, Squaw Valley Resort, Squaw Valley Academy, Red Wolf Lodge, Creekside Charter School and others.
 - ❖ Our child passenger safety program is the most active and accessible of any agency in this area.

Squaw Valley Fire Department has enjoyed considerable success and made some important advances during 2018. The most significant aspect of our operation for the year has to be the commitment of our Department to over seventy days of service to other small California communities threatened (and in some cases devastated) by wildland fires: the value of our service to those communities - and to the knowledge, capabilities and confidence of our staff - cannot be overstated. It is important to note that all the time we had a full-staffed engine committed to those incidents, we provided uninterrupted service to our community as well. Even though our Board doesn't have an opportunity to see the hundreds of handmade "Thank You, Firefighters" signs that we see when we travel through the communities affected by these fires, you deserve considerable credit for making our presence there possible and can take satisfaction in that.

In 2018 we hired three new full-time Firefighters to fill vacancies: Mike Wright, Keith Erickson (promoted from part-time FF), and Scott Halterman, all of whom are doing an excellent job. We also hired three new part time firefighters: Michael Brixey, Nicholas Cherne, Hunter Simons.

Recruitment and retention is a challenge in the fire industry as a whole and we are very aware of the problem here at SVFD. We implemented a plan to financially help our part time firefighters go to paramedic school, which will in turn build trust and loyalty as well as create a hiring pool for our future full time ranks. We continue to look for other opportunities to increase moral and build the foundation for shaping the department into the future. Succession planning is an ongoing process for every agency that strives to meet and exceed the expectations of its constituents and it is our goal to be prepared to meet the needs of our community. See Captain Chisholm's Training Report in the following pages.

The Fire Department staff applied for a few grants this year which are still pending, including FEMA "Assistance to Firefighters" grant for a new water tender and a regional grant for new ALS Autopulse equipment.

2018 saw an ongoing demand for plan review, consultation with the Planning Department and project proponents, written comments and meetings. Several new and remodel residential homes as well as the Plumpjack renovation project and the Resort at Squaw Creek Phase II Plans.

I am very proud of the organization that you have trusted me to lead. We have a great group of people and our skills and capabilities are better than ever and make a real difference in the life of the community we serve. I am grateful to the Fire Department staff for their professionalism and enthusiasm, my talented and hard-working colleagues at the District, General Manager Mike Geary and your Board, which has shown tremendous support and confidence in the Fire Department. We love our jobs and appreciate your support and trust!

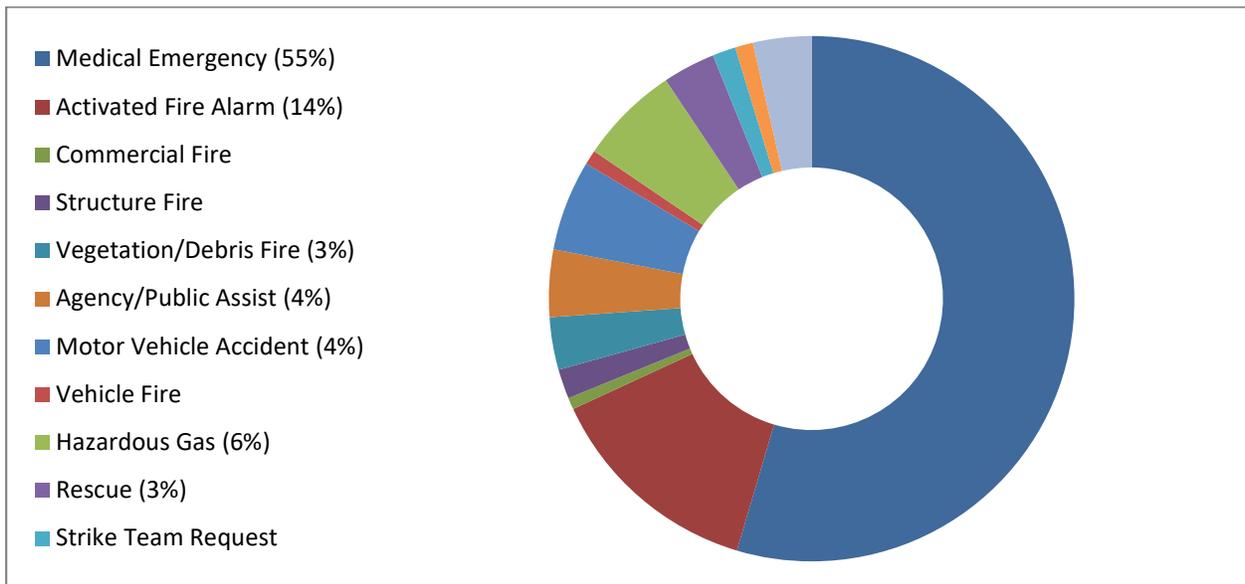
Thank you for a great year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan Bixey", is written in a cursive style.

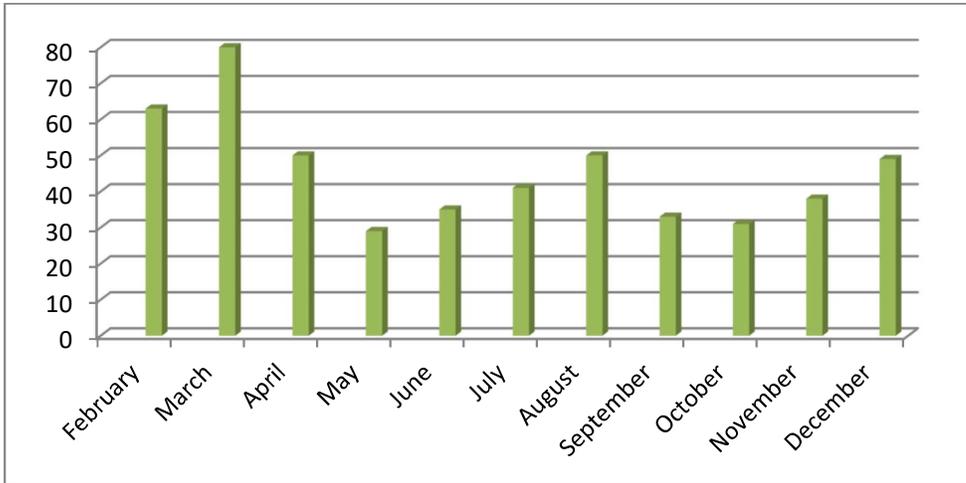
SQUAW VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency Calls by Type – 2018

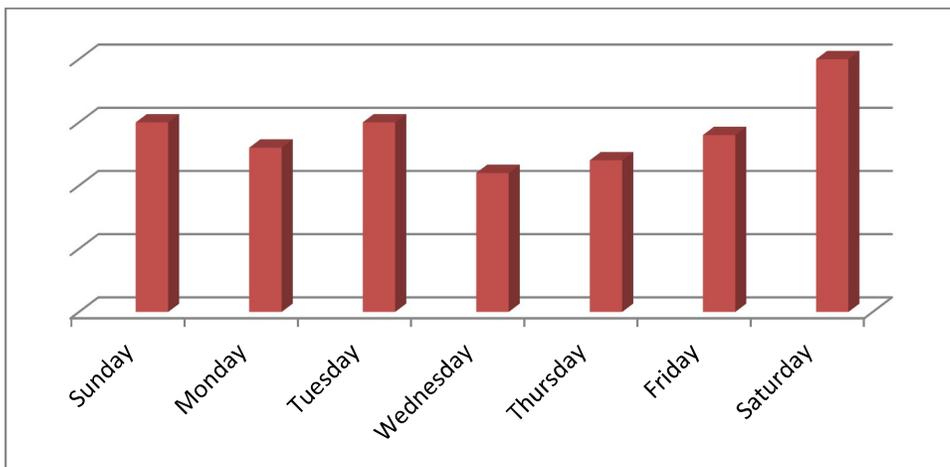
Medical Emergency	303
Activated Fire Alarm	75
Commercial Fire	4
Structure Fire	10
Vegetation/Debris Fire	18
Agency/Public Assist	23
Motor Vehicle Accident	31
Vehicle Fire	5
Hazardous Gas	34
Rescue	18
Strike Team Request	8
Electrical Hazard	6
Other	20
Total	555



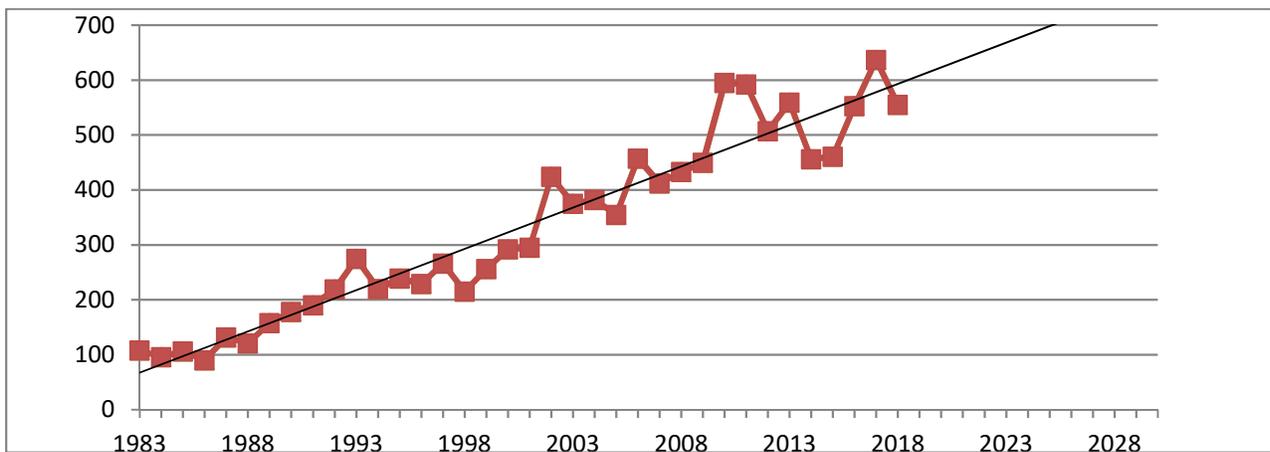
Emergency Calls by Month – 2018



Calls by Day of Week – 2018



Historic Call Volume 1983 – 2018



Fire Department Fleet - 2018

Designator	Year	Description	Mileage
Engine 21	2016	All-wheel drive Type 1 structure engine	10,172
Engine 221	2001	Two-wheel drive Type 1 structure engine	20,883
Brush 21	2017	Type III wildland/urban interface engine	8,412
Brush 22	1998	Type III wildland/urban interface engine	35,498
Water Tender 21	1988	2100 gallon water tender/pumper	160,997
Rescue 21	2006	Medium rescue with vehicle extrication	9,480
Utility 21	2011	Ford F150 Crew Cab pickup truck	33,313
Command 21	2016	Ford Interceptor	38,153
Ranger 21	2014	Polaris Ranger Crew 900 UTV	774

Fire Department Staff - 2018

Name	Years of Service
Captain Sal Monforte	37
Chief Allen Riley	25
Captain Chris DeDeo	23
Captain Brad Chisholm	21
Firefighter-Paramedic Travis Smith	18
Firefighter-Paramedic John Rogers	15
Firefighter-Paramedic Kurt Gooding	15
Engineer-Paramedic Hans Walde	13
Engineer-Paramedic Josh Rytter	12
Engineer-Paramedic Jeff Geigle	11
Firefighter-Paramedic Mike Wright	1
Firefighter-Paramedic Keith Erickson	1
Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Halterman	>1
P/T Firefighter Ethan Manseau	3
P/T Firefighter Leroy Valadez	2
P/T Firefighter Mitch Nelson	1
P/T Firefighter Michael Brixey	>1
P/T Firefighter Nicholas Cherne	>1
P/T Firefighter Hunter Simons	>1

SQUAW VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT



* TRAINING *

Chief Riley,

In 2018, Training for Squaw Valley Fire Department experienced challenges, growth and success.

The turnover in full-time personnel we experienced resulted in training up new members. Keith Erickson was promoted from part-time firefighter to full-time firefighter/paramedic, and Mike Wright and Scott Halterman were hired from the outside as firefighter/paramedics. This addition to our ranks required a two weekend “mini-academy” to cover everything from household duties to operational tactics.

These new members were also issued Task Books to insure they meet a required level of progression and competency. All three members successfully passed their six-month evaluations and have been taking classes consistent with their “career track” guideline.

Any time we see new members, much of the burden of “training them up” falls on our individual firefighters and on the shifts. This time was no exception and they all should be recognized for their contributions.

Full-Time Firefighters

As noted above, we added three members to our fulltime ranks. Each shift is now operating with full staffing of four crew members. Each member is responsible to meet the industry standard of two hours of fire/rescue related training for each day of work, or 240 hours per year.

While this might seem like a manageable number, when considering other demands such as EMS training, inspections, projects and calls, it often becomes challenging. One area that we strongly encourage our members to gain hours is through classes. More frequently we are seeing quality classes held locally, in addition to the many opportunities in the greater Sacramento and San Francisco/Bay Area. We are appreciative of the training incentive and support program Squaw Valley Fire Department provides and believe it helps us maintain and build valuable skills.

Our full-time firefighters are issued a Career Track that outlines what we expect their progression to follow for their first seven years. This will act as guide through their Company Officer classes, as well as many specialty classes such as driver/operator, technical rescue, and wildland.

Engine Companies are given an annual training calendar. This calendar is a guideline that allows each shift to focus on the same topic at similar times. This calendar also insures key topics are covered throughout the year.

2018 SVFD Full Time Fire Fighter Training Statistics

- Annual ISO: 92.8% (w/ Halterman 91.3%)
- Annual Requirements: 100%
- Total Fire/Rescue Training:
 - Needed Hours = 2,880
 - Completed Hours = 3,802
 - Average Hours = 317 (240 Needed)
 - Percentage = 132%

Part-Time Firefighters

Training our part-time firefighters is a moving target; they all have different schedules and we see them all at different frequencies.

Of our six part-time members, one has completed paramedic school and is in our TAP process, one is nearing completion of paramedic school, two are starting paramedic school in the spring, and two are applying to paramedic school. This obviously indicates a very determined group of part-time firefighters. When scheduled to a shift (typically a 24-hour shift at Station 21) we include the part-time firefighters in our daily "Company Training" routine. These firefighters are also issued a Task Book, participate in our Company Inspections, Defensible Space Inspections, Apparatus and Station Inspections/Maintenance, as well as periodically assigned projects.

All but one of our part-time firefighters work in the fire/EMS service outside of SVFD, including, Truckee Fire District, Fallen Leaf Lake Fire Department, Tahoe Ambulance Consortium and Cal Fire. This, coupled with their time at SVFD, affords them significant exposure to fire/EMS activities and has yielded us a crew of knowledgeable and competent part-time firefighters.

Our part-time firefighters play an important role in backfilling shifts as well as on strike teams. Strike teams, perhaps more than anywhere else, affords them the opportunity to learn about fire dynamics, engine companies, command and control, partner agencies, personalities, strategies and tactics and about themselves. It is a great training experience for them and a valuable opportunity for us to work with them in a dynamic environment.

We intend to continue to train our part-time members, offer them appropriate classes and prepare them for career positions with SVFD as they become available.

Our Part-time firefighters average training hours for SVFD in 2018 was 125 hours. This includes one member who was with SVFD less than four months in 2018. Without this individual the average would have been 141 hours.

2018 Fire/Rescue Classes Attended by SVFD Personnel

Regional Instructor Orientation, Ethics in the Classroom, Radio Coverage in Buildings, Driver/Operator 1A & 1B, Training Symposium, NIOSH Research/Flow Path, ICS 300, Live Fire, SRT, Outdoor Aerial Fireworks Display, GIOA Air Ops, Rope Rescue Tech., Wildland Scene Preservation, Confined Space Rescue, Incident Safety Officer, Strike Team Leader Refresher.

Training Thoughts/Goals

- Develop complete training outlines for every training topic we have. While topics are always being added and standards and methods change, it is important to provide an outline to insure trainings are performed up to best practices, industry standards and to highlight and address safety issues.
- Develop Training SOPs that address safety, mandates/standards and Department requirements.
- Live Fire Training is crucial to any department's training program. In the past we have conducted such training in a facility with LPG fueled props. While this offers opportunities to do many important tasks (spot and pump apparatus, advance hoses, flow water, deploy ladders, forcible entry, etc.) the experience gained from a class A fire vs. a gas prop is significant. Unfortunately, it is very difficult for a small Department like SVFD to conduct such training by ourselves. I will attempt to network with other regional Departments to see if we can team up with them when they conduct class A live fire training. This would also go a long way to helping us meet 18 hours ISO requires annually for "Facility" training.
- Better understand NFPA, OSHA and CICC. These included industry standards, minimums and mandates. We simply cannot meet them all, but I would like to better understand them to determine what makes sense for us to follow or that we can achieve.
- Part timers were noted above as being moving targets. Regardless of their varying availabilities, I would like to institute the following for these members.
 1. Two hours training for every shift they work (fire/rescue/EMS)
 2. Meet applicable ISO training: Driver and HazMat
 3. Meet the key OSHA 29 CFR topics: CSR, Lock-Out/Tag-Out, PPE, BBP, Noise Hazards, HazMat, Trench, Fire Brigades.
- Task Books still need to be refined. Without burdening the shifts like before with separate training topics, we need to find some middle ground between what we are doing now and what we did in the past. Ways to possibly address this:
 1. Identify topics on the Annual Company Training Calendar that require manipulative training be performed for someone working on a PT or FT TB.
 2. Reference the Manipulative Training Log that we've previously used for items to be covered.
 3. Identify 12 additional topics to be performed for Shift Choice weeks when training a probationary firefighter. Or perhaps six topics, on alternating months.

- Develop Promotional Task Books for members who promote to Engineer and Captain. Because they will have tested for the position, this approach would be more of a refresher. This would be the same approach we used for the most recent Engineer promotion, which seemed appropriate and worked well.
- While it's still a way off, the discussion of a Regional Training Facility is very exciting. It would certainly require a lot of inter- and intra-departmental coordination in terms of staffing and resources, but I believe it would transform Training for our Department. Such a facility would go a long way to addressing our constant challenge of finding an appropriate space to train in a nonintrusive, realistic and safe manner.
- Topics I would like to arrange for our members to commit more training hours include:
 1. Driver Training
 2. Active Shooter
 3. Single Resource
 4. Traffic Incident Management

North Tahoe Training Officers' Association

NTTOA continues to meet on roughly a quarterly basis. Towards the end of 2018, the NTTOA met to discuss the topic of a Regional Training Cadre. The idea began with three select topics with which it would make sense to take a regional approach. By the end of the meeting, the idea had expanded onto one topic per month. The concept would be similar to the successful Regional Technical Rescue Team in which interested members from each JPA Department would commit members. Each cadre would develop training guidelines that fit the needs of local agencies, hold periodic cadre training and schedule annual or bi-annual drills.

Toward the end of 2018 I attended a Northern Nevada and Lake Tahoe Training Officers' Association (NNLTTOA) meeting. I came away with mixed feelings, but I do feel that it could be a good resource for classes, drills and live fire training.

Training for SVFD has been very successful, but still has unfulfilled needs and potential. As with many other key components to our Fire Department, it is the ability to commit time to see these many ideas through. Chief Riley has been supportive of coming in on off days to work towards these goals. I hope to take advantage of this so I can spend shift time with our shift. I will continue to work with Chief Riley, our shifts and individual members to insure our Training continues to be progressive, worthwhile and meets industry best practices, standards and mandates.

Thank you to the Squaw Valley PSD Board for recognizing the critical role Training plays in our Department and supporting us in our efforts to provide a well-trained crew.

SQUAW VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

Date: March 20, 2019

To: District Board of Directors
Chief Riley

From: Captain Chris De Deo

Subject: Fire Prevention Annual Report

California experienced 7,571 wildfires, which burned over 1.8 million acres. 2018 proved to be another record setting fire season. The Camp Fire was the deadliest and most destructive fire in California history while the Mendocino Complex was the largest. During the 2018 fire season seven firefighters gave their lives, ninety-five civilians lost their lives and over 23,580 structures were destroyed reaching 3.5 billion dollars in losses.

Squaw Valley Fire Department's apparatus and crews spent 72 days on mutual aide fires throughout the state from June through November.

Defensible Space Inspections

SVFD - working at the engine company level - inspected our residential community for defensible space. After the first round of inspection notices 78% of the homes were in compliance, which increased to 90% following the second notice.

The great support we've received for our long-standing and successful defensible space program has resulted in a well-informed community regarding open fire pits, barbeques and general fire safe practices. Wildland fire information was provided at the annual pancake breakfast, on the District website as well as via social media. A defensible space cleanup day was coordinated in June that was well attended. Additionally, a number of letters and inspections to help property owners maintain their homeowners insurance were completed.

We continue to educate homeowners, HOA's and property management companies on how to become a FireWise Community. As a result our district did not experience any property loss due to wildland fires.

Commercial Occupancy Inspections

The goal of SVFD's commercial inspection program is to identify and abate any unsafe conditions and promote a safer environment within the establishments. It is equally important for the SVFD line personnel to familiarize themselves with the layout of the buildings in the event of a fire and to maintain the accuracy of our pre-fire plans.

The fire prevention program includes annual and periodic inspection of ALL buildings used for commercial purposes, places of assembly, apartments, condominiums and hotels within the SVFD service area. We also inspect temporary tent structures, firework displays, special events, under-ground and aboveground propane tank installations, residential and commercial sprinkler installations, standpipe systems and all building permits relating to the Uniform Fire Code.

SVFD at the engine company level helped minimize losses due to fire by inspecting over 130 commercial businesses in the district. Multiple fire alarm evacuation drills were performed at Squaw Valley Academy as well as Creekside Charter School and nighttime drills at SVA were also implemented. Additionally, fire extinguisher classes were held for employees at the Resort at Squaw Creek and SVFD currently has five CPR instructors teaching multiple classes throughout year. Our commitment to being a supportive resource to business owners and property management companies in the District has proven successful by the positive and cooperative working relationships we continue to maintain.

2019 Objectives

All commercial occupancies will continue to be inspected and updated on SVFD pre-fire plans. Our defensible space program will remain focused on dead trees, vacant lots and maintaining properties once in compliance.

SVFD is currently using a digital platform for all commercial inspections and anticipate transitioning to a digital platform for our wildland defensible inspection program this summer as well.

Captain Chris De Deo and Engineer Jeff Geigle are working towards becoming California state certified inspectors and have already completed the California State Fire Marshall Fire Inspector series 1 and 2.

With the increasing focus and demand on Prevention it is evident that more man-hours and training are necessary in order to continue to provide our community with the current level of service. One solution to consider would be to follow in the footsteps of surrounding fire departments in the Tahoe Basin and have a full-time Prevention Officer on staff.